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18 January 1962

Deputy Chief, SR

Mr. Mykola Abramchik, President of the
Belorussian National Congress (BNR)

1. In confirmation of our telephone conversation, attached is a memorandum for the Director, summarizing briefly the nature of our relationships with the Belorussian National Congress in Munich and its president, Mykola Abramchik.
2. We have just been informed that Mr. Abramchik left the country to return to Munich and will, therefore, not try to seek an audience with the Director personally. He has, however, expressed the intention of writing the Director to complain of his treatment at the hands of the Agency as represented by our action in terminating our subsidy to the BNR.

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Attach.

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MEMORANDUM FOR : Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Possible Appeal by Mykola Abramchik
of the Belorussian National Congress

1. This memorandum is for your information.
2. We have been advised by the Office of Operations/Contact Division that Mykola Abramchik, President of the Belorussian Peoples Republic and President of the Belorussian National Congress (BNR) in exile, has stated an intention to contact your office in the near future to appeal the termination of the subsidy extended to the BNR by this agency.
3. The BNR began its collaboration with this agency in 1951. Since 1953 its activities have been limited primarily to publication of a Belorussian-language weekly newspaper, distributed almost wholly to the emigre community. In 1960 and 1961 a concerted effort was made to initiate an operational program more consistent with the objectives of this agency. After an unsuccessful trial period of a year, reassessment of the project's potential and performance led to the conclusion that in a period of Agency cut-back of Soviet emigre operations, the BNR could only be considered submarginal. As a result, on 27 October 1961 BNR representatives were informed that this agency's monthly subsidy of [redacted] would not be continued past 31 December 1961. This position was reiterated to Mr. Abramchik on 17 and 18 January 1962 by [redacted] of the Office of Operations.

Richard Helms
Chief of Operations, DD/P

cc : DDCI

DD/P-SR Division []

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